

ABSTRACT

A method for preparing a mat, including: a) deposition or projection of threads onto a traveling belt to form a lap of the threads that are driven by the belt, then b) needling by bearded needles passing through the lap and being displaced in the direction of the lap at substantially the same speed as that when they pass through the lap, with a stroke density ranging from 1 to 25 strokes per cm^2 . By the method the mat obtained can easily be deformed by hand to be placed in a mold for manufacture of a composite material by injection of resin (RTM). The mat may also be incorporated into a preimpregnated sheet (SMC) and be molded under pressure.